

MISCELLANY

Items for the News column must be furnished by the twentieth of the preceding month. Under this department are grouped: Comment on Current and Recent Articles in the Journal; News; Medical Economics; Readers' Forum; California State Board of Health; California Board of Medical Examiners; and Twenty-Five Years Ago. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Meeting of the American College of Surgeons at Los Angeles on February 18 and 19.—The district comprised by California and Nevada of the American College of Surgeons meets in Los Angeles on the 18th and 19th of February.

This meeting promises to be a very interesting and important one. Word has been received from headquarters in Chicago that some of the leading surgeons of the East will attend the sessions. These meetings are always well attended by the profession and those who are interested in hospital administration, and will be open to all members of the medical profession.

Surgical clinics by prominent surgeons from other states will be held on these days.

The scientific programs for the meetings are being arranged, and give promise of special merit.

William H. Gilbert, F. A. C. S., is chairman of the California and Nevada division of the American College of Surgeons, as well as chairman of the committee on arrangements, which consists of Doctors William H. Kiger, Harlan Shoemaker, Walter L. Huggins, Robert V. Day, Charles T. Sturgeon, Clarence G. Toland, A. Ray Irvine, W. E. Waddell, Foster K. Collins, Charles D. Lockwood, and Hiram C. Weaver, secretary.

Headquarters for the convention will be in the Biltmore Hotel, where all meetings will be held. The banquet and public meeting will be held in the Sala de Ora. All members of the California county medical societies are invited to the banquet, at which many prominent men of the profession will speak.

The general meeting on Tuesday night, February 18, will be open to the public, and should be largely attended by everybody interested in the welfare of scientific medicine.

Popular Medical Lectures.—The Stanford University Medical School announces the forty-seventh course, to be given at Lane Hall, north side of Sacramento Street near Webster, San Francisco, on alternate Friday evenings, eight o'clock sharp. All interested are cordially invited to attend. Three lectures have already been given. The remainder of the series are:

Friday evening, February 15, 1929: "Facts and Fancies of Rheumatism"—Leonard W. Ely, M. D.

Friday evening, March 1, 1929: "The Historical Development of Anesthesia"—Chauncey D. Leake, Ph. D.

Friday evening, March 15, 1929: "A Study of the Cost of Medical Care"—Ray Lyman Wilbur, M. D.

The Lane Medical Lectures for 1929 will be given in San Francisco at Lane Hall, Sacramento Street near Webster, at 8:15 p. m. on the following dates by Professor Walther Straub of Munich:

April 15—"Recent Developments in Narcosis."

April 16—"Narcotics as a Means of Enjoyment in Theory and Practice."

April 17—"Pharmacology of Heavy Metals."

April 18—"Chemistry and Pharmacology of Digitalis and Its Allies."

April 19—"Chemistry and Pharmacology of Digitalis and Its Allies" (concluded).

There will be moving-picture demonstrations of the manufacture of arsphenamin and of the actions of camphor; time to be announced later.

Stanford University Report.—The Lane Medical Lectures for 1928 were delivered by Dr. F. d'Herelle, professor of bacteriology, Yale University, and formerly directeur du service bacteriologique du Conseil

Sanitaire, Maritime et Quarantenaire d'Egypt, Alexandria, on the evenings of October 22 to 26, inclusive. Doctor d'Herelle spoke on the discovery and nature of the bacteriophage and its possible use for therapeutic purposes. The lectures were well attended and were received with great interest by the medical profession.

Graduate Summer Course in 1928.—A short summer course was given for graduates in medicine from July 2 to July 14, 1928. It was attended by nineteen physicians. The object was to make the practitioners acquainted with the most recent developments in medical science and practice.

Gifts.—A gift of \$10,000 has been received from Dr. Adolph Barkan, emeritus professor of structure and diseases of eye, ear, and larynx, as an endowment of the department of history of medicine and natural sciences of the Lane Medical Library.

Dr. P. J. Hanzlik, professor of pharmacology, and Dr. H. G. Mehrtens, professor of neuropsychiatry, received a grant of \$3000 from the Committee on Research in Syphilis for their cooperative research on the treatment of syphilis. This work was further supported by a gift of \$1000 received by Professor Mehrtens from Mrs. Anne Tallant Brodie.

The physiotherapy department received an additional gift of \$1000 from Miss Helen E. Cowell for physiotherapy treatment of indigent patients.

Dr. H. K. Faber, professor of pediatrics, received an additional gift of \$1000 from Mr. Edward M. Mills for free beds in the children's ward.

Grace Deere Velie Metabolic Clinic.—Construction on the Grace Deere Velie Metabolic Clinic at Carmel commenced on January 10, 1929.

This clinic is made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Grace V. Harris, who is furnishing an endowment for completely equipped laboratories for research in metabolic diseases and for the housing of about twenty-five patients. The initial expenditure will be in the neighborhood of \$200,000, and with ample provision made for continued maintenance funds for research. The clinic will not be run for profit, but its aim is primarily to provide ample facilities for diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from metabolic disturbances and for advancing the knowledge of these diseases through original research. The staff will consist, at the beginning, of four full-time medical men, specially trained in this branch of medicine. Dr. R. A. Kocher, formerly instructor in research medicine at the Hooper Foundation, University of California, will be medical director. Dr. J. R. Blackman, now in the department of roentgenology at Stanford Medical School, will be in charge of the x-ray department. Two other appointments are yet to be made.

The general plan of the clinic, its purpose and administration, will be similar to that of the Scripps Clinic at La Jolla in southern California. It is believed that this clinic will serve a distinct need in northern California.

Southern Pacific General Hospital Meeting.—The regular monthly staff meeting of the Southern Pacific General Hospital was held on Wednesday, January 9, at 8:15 p. m. The staff and interns presented the essentials of the clinical and pathological data of the fatalities for December. A statistical report of the roentgenological department for 1928 was submitted by Dr. L. B. Crow. A pathological and statistical review of autopsies and a general review of the pathological department for 1928 was presented by Dr. W. T. Cummins.

Extension Lectures on Mental Hygiene.—A course of fifteen lectures on mental hygiene by Dr. Vaclav H. Podstata, associate clinical professor of psychiatry in the University of California Medical School, will be given at the University Extension Building, 540 Powell Street, beginning January 23 at 7 p. m.

Two units of university credit will be given upon completion of the course, the fee for which is \$12. A registration fee of \$1 is required for new students.

University of California Experts Plan Brain Tumor Study.—Experts of the University of California Medical College will shortly open a new and intensive study of neurological ailments, with special reference to brain tumors, according to an announcement made recently by the board of regents. The survey is made possible through a gift of \$25,000 a year for the next five years.

The donor is Dudley Cates, an insurance official living in Winnetka, Illinois, who was graduated in the class of 1911. The work will be in charge of Dr. H. C. Naffziger, clinical professor of surgery.—*San Francisco Examiner*.

Bailey and Kimball Win First Places in September National Board Examination, Part II.—There were forty-seven candidates who took the examination in Part II in September. Dr. Frederick R. Bailey, Jr., earned the highest number of credits and Dr. Theodore S. Kimball the next highest. Doctor Bailey was graduated from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1928, and Doctor Kimball was graduated from the College of Medical Evangelists of Los Angeles in the same year.—*National Board Bulletin*.

Research Work on Pituitary Gland.—For his work in an investigation of the ductless glands, and particularly in his isolation of pituitary hormones, Dr. Oliver Kamm, director of chemical research of Parke, Davis & Company, manufacturing chemists, has been awarded the \$1000 prize by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for the "most noteworthy contribution to science presented at the annual meeting."

Some two thousand scientists delivered addresses at this meeting, which was held in New York. The award was announced on January 2 by Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the association.

The isolation of two hormones from the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland, as revealed by Doctor Kamm, is held by chemical scientists to be equal in importance to the isolation of insulin and the discovery of adrenalin.

Postgraduate Courses for Doctors and Children's Doctors re "The Improvements in Infantile Therapeutics."—During the period between April 10 and April 20, 1929, an extensive postgraduate course: "Improvements in Infantile Therapeutics" is being held for doctors and children's doctors in Düsseldorf in the children's clinic of the Medical Academy in Düsseldorf, Moorenstr. 5, by the Central Committee for Medical Postgraduate Work in Prussia and the Association for the Care of Suckling Babies and Welfare Work in the administrative district of Düsseldorf.

The first course of this kind, which took place last year, was a great success, as the hearers are given a complete survey of all the improvements in the whole domain of infantile therapeutics. At the same time the possibility of studying modern examination methods is given in special courses.

The detailed program can be obtained in the secretariat of the postgraduate course: "Improvements in Infantile Therapeutics," in Düsseldorf, Oststrasse 15.

Dinner Meeting of American College of Physicians Members.—On Friday night, January 18, fifty of the southern California members of the American College of Physicians met at dinner at the California Club, Los Angeles. Dr. Egerton Crispin of the Board of Governors spoke on the "Purposes and Ideals of the College." Dr. F. M. Pottenger of the Board of Regents discussed "The Future Plans of the College." The address of the evening on "Recent Advances in Our Knowledge of the Liver" was given by Dr.

Leonard Rowntree, Director of Medical Service, Mayo Clinic, and Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota.

Stanford University Medical School.—Dr. T. Addis, professor of medicine in the Stanford University School of Medicine, is absent on leave for one year acting as guest physician in the Hospital of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Dr. Charles Gurchot, Ph. D., Cornell, and Miss Frances Watson, A. B., Stanford, have been appointed research assistants in the department of pharmacology and the division of neurology, Stanford University School of Medicine, assisting in researches on syphilis supported by a grant from the Committee on Research in Syphilis to Dr. P. J. Hanzlik and H. G. Mehlerts.

Among the student body of the Stanford University School of Medicine there are enrolled five men with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, the institutions represented being Cornell, California, Johns Hopkins, and Stanford.

Gift to Medical School of the University of Southern California.—A gift of \$100,000 from Dr. and Mrs. Wilbur W. Beckett to the endowment fund of the School of Medicine of the University of Southern California was announced recently by Harry J. Bauer, chairman of the Semi-Centennial Commission of the University.

Doctor Beckett has long been engaged in the practice of medicine in Los Angeles and active in the development of the city's medical welfare. He is vice-president and medical director of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, and a director of the Citizens Trust and Savings Bank, the Pioneer Security Company, and numerous other southern California corporations.

In transmitting his gift to the university, Doctor Beckett expressed the opinion that the provision of adequate medical training was the chief educational need of southern California.

"It is a great pleasure to me to place at the disposal of the University of Southern California funds that will be used for its medical school," Doctor Beckett stated. "The advancement of medical education is a worthy end under any circumstances, but it is particularly gratifying to be able to help in making provision for such education here in southern California, where adequate medical training is recognized as the chief educational need of the community."

"Such a school will raise the standards of the medical profession locally. It will provide opportunities for research among our physicians. It will make it unnecessary for our young people to leave Los Angeles to obtain a medical education. Such a medical center will provide the means that Los Angeles needs for promoting the science of medicine and for disseminating that science to the profession as well as to the laity. And it is most fortunate that it is the University of Southern California that is sponsoring the teaching of medicine, since it makes it possible for the new medical school, like other outstanding medical schools throughout the country, to have at its disposal the facilities of a great university."

"To me there is no worthier object for gifts than the building and endowing of a school that is to train our young men and women to heal our sick and to apply themselves to the health problems of the community. And it is my belief that a gift to the school now is worth more than it would be at any future time. It is a source of keen satisfaction to know that my gift will make it possible for me to continue to serve my profession and my community on down through the years to come."

The School of Medicine of the University of Southern California was reopened last September under the direction of Dean William Dean Cutter, former dean of the Postgraduate Medical School of New York. During the present year the first year of medicine is being taught, and each year hereafter an additional year of work will be added until in 1931 a full four-year course will be available.

American Association for the Study of Goiter.—The next meeting of the American Association for the Study of Goiter will be held at Dayton, Ohio, on March 25, 26, and 27.

The association was formed a number of years ago with the primary object of bringing together each year men who will present the best that has been thought, said, and done in the study of goiter and its associated problems. It aims to establish a forum where all subjects pertaining to goiter may be presented and fully discussed.

Members of state and provincial medical societies are eligible and cordially invited to participate as attending members at the Dayton meeting.

Golf Tournament, Southern California Medical Golf Association.—Ninety-five members of the Southern California Medical Golf Association played the monthly tournament at the Potrero Country Club, Wednesday, January 23. Winners in Class A were: L. D. Cheney, low gross; and John W. Shuman, low net. One hundred and forty members and guests attended the semidry banquet at 6:30 p. m., donated by Doctors E. J. Cook and A. W. Moore, in honor of Clarence W. Pierce, who retired after thirty years' active practice of medicine. Dr. J. Lee Hagadorn was toastmaster. Among the guests and speakers were: Doctors Allen B. Kanavel of Chicago; E. Pallette, president Los Angeles County Medical Association; W. W. Beckett, William M. Kiger, E. J. Cook, and A. W. Moore. The February tournament will be played at the Fox Hills Country Club.

Scholarships at University of California.—During the fiscal year 1927-28, students at the University of California were awarded scholarships, fellowships, and prizes totaling \$101,954.04. These funds came chiefly from private sources, approximately \$15,000 being the amount furnished by the state or by the university.

The University and Public Health.—Universities are not usually considered as public health centers. The public seldom hears of the work done by the University of California in this field through its free clinics maintained by the medical school. Yet a recent report from just one of these clinics shows that during the past ten years almost one thousand people of the state without funds have been treated for eye conditions which would certainly have resulted in blindness were such gratuitous care not available. In addition the lives of several thousand others were made more comfortable by suitable glasses to correct less serious infirmities.

This work is done by the faculty of the medical school, all graduate physicians, many of them with large practices on the outside, who offer their services to the state through the university for this clinical work gratuitously. If the time thus given in the relief of these thousands of people were computed at the extremely low figure of \$5 an hour, it would have totaled \$75,000.

The university carries on this work both as a service to the state and as a method enabling its students to watch practiced physicians at work. Most of it is done at the main clinic at the university medical school, but some is done in the San Francisco City Hospital, where the university maintains service.

In the city hospital three hundred cases of eye inflammation, due to gonorrhea in the newborn, were treated; at the university there were 105 cases of glaucoma, 10 cases of trachoma, 90 cases of inflammation of the cornea, 110 cases of inflammation of the iris, 325 cataracts removed, and 30 cases of congenital cataract. Quite obviously there is more to a large university than a library of books and an army of students.—*U. C. Clip Sheet.*

University of California Starts Radio Program Over RCA.—Something new in academic instruction has started at the University of California. At the suggestion of Sam Hume, Director of Vocational Activities of the State Department of Education, and of the Radio Corporation of America, the university is co-

operating in the establishment of what might be called a "University of the Air."

Once each week some member of the faculty of the University of California, or other prominent educator, will speak on some popular phase of science or culture during a part of the RCA hour, from 8 to 8:15 p. m. on Friday. This program will be broadcast simultaneously by KHQ, Spokane; KOMO, Seattle; KGW, Portland; KGO, Oakland; KPO, San Francisco; and KFI, Los Angeles.

The first men to participate in this program from the university will be Professor T. H. Goodspeed of the botany department, and Professor Robert H. Lowie of the department of anthropology. Professor Goodspeed recently achieved national recognition as a result of his work on the effect of the x-ray upon the germ cells of plants. Simultaneously with the work of Muller of Texas, on fruit flies, he found that the x-ray had such a profound effect on the germ cells of tobacco plants, that new species were formed having greatly different characteristics than their parent plants. Professor Lowie is one of the leading ethnologists of the nation, having studied American Indians for a score of years.

Professor Lowie will speak over the air on Friday, February 1.—*U. C. Clip Sheet.*

The New Dante Sanatorium.—On January 10 the formal opening of the new Dante Sanatorium occurred and the buildings were opened for the inspection of the public.

The new hospital is an institution of which the Italian Hospital Association and E. A. Trenkle, the superintendent, can well be proud.

The original building contained fifty beds and the new building adds to this number fifty-three beds in single rooms in the Broadway wing, and forty-eight beds in single and two-bed rooms in the Vallejo Street wing. These rooms are furnished in the most comfortable and tasteful manner, and huge sun parlors have been provided in the roof of the new wings for the use of convalescing patients.

Five new operating rooms have been added, equipped with the most up-to-date apparatus for the safety of patients and the convenience of the surgeons.

The top floor of the Broadway wing will be devoted entirely to maternity patients, and a thoroughly modern delivery room with all its accessories is placed on this floor. Each room has an individual glass-enclosed nursery for the baby.

All the laundering for the hospital and all of the baking (except bread) will be done in the hospital's own plants, and the power and lighting arrangements are so made that failures of current can be immediately compensated by the use of other circuits.

Nothing has been omitted to make the hospital most comfortable and efficient, and the Vallejo Street wing is designed to furnish accommodations to patients who have heretofore been unable to meet the previous schedule of prices.

Cancer Institute, San Francisco County Hospital.—Work will begin shortly on the new Cancer Institute building to be erected near the San Francisco Hospital out of the recent health bond issue. The new building will cost about \$400,000.

International Hospital Congress.—The International Hospital Congress will assemble at Atlantic City, New Jersey, on the morning of June 13. This Congress will be immediately followed by the annual convention of the American Hospital Association.

In connection with this first congress of its kind there will be a very valuable exhibit of plans and models of modern hospitals, of various types of hospital equipment and supplies, and of statistical data relative to the care of the sick throughout the world.

The purpose of the congress is to bring together all those interested in hospital administration, hospital construction and organization, and to afford by personal contacts and exchange of ideas a better understanding of hospital needs and problems as well as hospital progress throughout the world.